

REMARKS

Applicants submit this amendment for three reasons. First, Applicants have amended to correct a typographical error in claim 1. Specifically, in claim 1, the phrase “wherein the abutment sleeve abuts the profiled journal or the component connected thereto with an axial distance from the ball groove run outs in a region of the second portion of the profiled journal” appears twice. Accordingly, Applicants seek to remove the duplicate recitation.

Applicants also seek to cancel claim 13 as the limitations present in claim 13 are already present in claim 1, as allowed.

Finally, Applicants seek to add new claims 34-37. These claims correspond to originally filed claim 18, 22, 30 and 31, respectively, and each depend, either directly or indirectly, from allowed claim 1. These claims had previously been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected species and inadvertently canceled in response to the final office action.

However, allowed claim 1 can be read on not only the elected Species I (i.e., FIGS. 1 and 2), but also on the non-elected Species II and III (i.e., FIGS. 3 and 4). Moreover, new claims 34 and 36 (which correspond to original claims 18 and 30) and may be read on Species II, depend from generic claim 1. Accordingly, these claims should be rejoined. Similarly, new claims 35 and 37 (which correspond to original claims 22 and 31) and may be read on Species III, depend from generic claim 1. Accordingly, these claims should also be rejoined.

If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 referencing docket no. 66967-0033.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 66967-0033 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 24, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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